



Course program and reading list

Semester 1 Year 2022

School: Lauder School of Government, Diplomacy & Strategy M.A

Advanced Theories and Approaches to Politics

Lecturer:

Dr. Hani Zubida hzubida@runi.ac.il

Teaching Assistant:

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Course No.:	Course Type :	Weekly Hours :	Credit:
24002	Lecture	2	2

Course Requirements :	Group Code :	Language:
Final Paper	221400201	English



Course Description

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One of the most important tasks of the MA program is the training of the students toward scholarly research. Students should be able to assess the state of the scholarly literature, identify interesting questions, form strategies for answering them, locate suitable methodological tools which will enable them to conduct the research, and finally understand how to write the results in an academic fashion.

Although in almost every course these questions are addressed indirectly, in this course they will become the center of attention. We will analyze these issues in multiple contexts and variety of political theories. We will try to uncover the various paths to political analysis by focusing on empirical methods, both qualitative and quantitative, and extend these to various political schools of thought. All that will be done using various examples from Israeli politics, comparative politics and other subfields of political science.

The aim of the class is to address the importance and centrality of the various approaches to political inquiry. We will discuss various types of empirical evidence: historical, quantitative and more. We will also explore the various methodologies commonly used in political research, such as survey research, experiments, statistical analysis, case studies and more.



Course Goals

Eligibility for Final Paper Submission is composed of:

1. **Mandatory attendance record** – no more than three absences during the entire semester. (if you have any justifications please send it to the program student admin and they will take care of it and inform us)
2. **Reading the course materials and educated participation during lectures!**
3. Submitting Paper Topic and approving it.
4. Submitting Paper Abstract and approving it.
5. Submitting Paper Demo and approving it.

Important Dates and Deadlines

- **Paper Topic** is due **Week 4.**
- **Paper Abstract** is due **Week 8.**
- **Paper Demo** is due **Week 10.**
- **Final Paper** is due **Week 13.**

ALL ASSIGNMENTS ARE TO BE SUBMITTED & UPLOADED TO THE COURSE WEBSITE AS PDF FILE ONLY



Grading

Course Requirements and Grade Composition

- Paper topic assignment – **5% of the total grade** – will be submitted at **Week 4.**
- Paper abstract assignment – **5% of the total grade** – will be submitted at **Week 8.**
- Paper demo assignment – **10% of the total grade** – will be submitted at **Week 10.**

- Final Paper – **80% of total grade** – will be submitted at **Week 13**.

All plagiarism issues will be handled with accordance to the IDC bulletin and policies.



Lecturer Office Hours

Instructor: Dr. Hani Zubida

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Office Hours: by appointment



Teaching Assistant

Teaching Assistant: Miss Leore Spira

E-mail: leore.spira@post.idc.ac.il



Additional Notes

Appendix

Topic, Abstract, Demo and Final Paper Guide

- Last Date to Submit the **Paper Topic** is **Week 4**.

Each student should submit a research questions with up to 500 words of explanation of the topic and their research method – **Read the “Guidelines to the Paper Topic”** on your course website. Submission of the papers as an ELECTRONIC copy to the course web site.

- Last Date to submit **Paper Abstract** is **Week 8**.

What do we have to write in the Paper Abstract? – **Read the “Guidelines to the Paper Abstract”** on your course site. Submission of the papers as an ELECTRONIC copy to the course web site.

Your Abstract should provide answers to 4 basic questions:

1. What do you want to know? (specific problem or issue, research questions)
Ontology
2. Why do you want to know it? Why should anyone care what you find? What difference does it make? **Epistemology**
3. What do you think the answer is, what are your hypothesis, what is your theory? Be sure to spell out the reasoning behind your hypothesis and the logical connections between them.
4. How do you intend to solve the puzzle? (Research design)
5. Annotated bibliography should include full reference of the item and its relevance to your work.

Last Date to submit the **Paper Demo** is **Week 10**. Submission of the papers as an ELECTRONIC copy to the course web site.

The Demo – Read the **“Guidelines to the Paper Demo”** on your course site – is meant to help you understand how to apply the theories in your Final Papers. You will be given a Research Question as well as hypotheses to which you are required to provide a detailed list of the tools you will use to prove the given Hypotheses.

The Demo papers are to be submitted as an ELECTRONIC copy to the course web site as a WORD or PDF file.

The Demo should not exceed **one page only**.

The Demo is not an essay and should be written in the form of 2 bullet point lists, one for each of the theories you will use in your Final Paper.

Last Date to submit the **Final Paper** is **Week 13**. Submission of the papers as an ELECTRONIC copy to the course web site.

The paper Abstract is the basis for the final paper.

The Final Paper would be **4500 to 5000 words** (That is between 15 to 20 pages long) **NO MORE NO LESS**. It should be based on the approved topic and the submitted Abstract, and will include all the necessary parts of an academic paper.



Reading List

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Course Main Textbooks:

- ◦ David Marsh and Gerry Stoker (Eds.). 2010. **Theory and Methods in Political Science**. (Third Ed.). NY: New York: Palgrave MacMillan. (320.01 THE)
- ◦ Colin Hay, Michael Lister and David Marsh. **The State: Theories and Issues**. NY: New York: Palgrave MacMillan.

General Introduction

5. **Weeks 1, 2 & 3**

The Discipline of Political Science - Definitions

Required Readings:

- Marsh and Stoker. pp. 1-12

Suggested Readings:

- Chava Frankfort-Nachmias and David Nachmias. 2007. **Research Methods in the Social Science**. New York: NY. Worth Publishers. Chapter 1, pp. 1-22. (On order)

The Scientific Approach/Revolutions

Required Readings:

- David Marsh and Paul Furlong, in Marsh and Stokes pp. 184-210
- Karl R. Popper. 1969. "*Science: Conjectures and Refutations*". In **Conjectures and Refutations**. London: Routledge. 1969. pp. 33-55.
- Thomas S. Khun. 1963. "*The Function of Dogma in Scientific Research*". In Alistair Crombie (ed.). **Scientific Change**. Oxford: Heinemann Educational Books Ltd. Ch. 11.

Suggested Readings:

- Rene Descartes. 1942. **Discourse on Method**. (2nd ed.). Washington Square Press. (194 DES)

Approaches

5. **Weeks 4 + 5**

Behaviouralism

Required Readings:

- David Sanders, in Marsh and Stoker pp. 23-41.
- David Easton. 1969. "*The New Revolution in Political Science*". American Political Science Review, 63(4). pp. 1051-1061 (Via Electronic Data Base)
- Theda Skocpol. 1985. "*Bringing the State Back in: Strategies in Current Research*". In P. B. Evans, D. Rueschemeyer and T. Skocpol (eds.). **Bringing the State Back In**. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. pp. 3-9; 14-17; 20-21; 27-28.

5. **Weeks 6 + 7**

Rational Choice

Required Readings:

- Andrew Hindmoor, in Marsh and Stoker pp. 42-59.
- Anthony Downs. 1957. "*The Statics and Dynamics of Party Ideologies*". In **An Economic Theory of Democracy**. NY: Harper and Row. Ch. 8 pp. 114-141. (321.8 DOW)

Suggested Readings:

- Thomas C. Shelling. 1967. "What is Game Theory?" in James C. Charlesworth (ed.). **Contemporary Political Analysis**. Pp. 212-238.
- Shepsle Kenneth and Bonchek M. S. 1997. **Analyzing Politics: Rationality Behavior' and Institutions**. New York: NY. W. W. Norton. Part 1, pp. 5-35. (320 SHE)
- Hafez M. Mohammed. 2006. "Rationality, Culture, and Structure in the Making of Suicide Bombers: A Preliminary Theoretical Synthesis and Illustrative Case Study." **Studies in Conflict and Terrorism**. 29:165-185.

5. **Weeks 8 + 9**

Institutionalism

Required Readings:

- Vivien Lowndes. in Marsh and Stoker pp. 60-79.
- Gabriel A. Almond. 1960. "*Introduction: A Functional Approach to Comparative Politics*". In Gabriel. A. Almond and J. S. Coleman (eds.). **The Politics of Developing Areas**. Princeton: NJ. Princeton University Press.
- Peter A. Hall. 1997. "*The Role of Interests, Institutions and Ideas in the Comparative Political Economy of the Industrialized Nations*". In **Comparative Politics: Rationality, Culture, and Structure**. Lichbach M. and Zukerman A. (Eds.). Cambridge University Press. Ch. 7, pp. 174-207. (320.3072 COM)

Suggested Readings:

- March J. and Olsen J. 1984. "The New Institutionalism: Organizational Factors in Political Life". **American Political Science Review**. 78:734-749. (Via Electronic Data Base)

5. **Weeks 10 + 11**

Feminism

Required Readings:

- Vicky Randall. in Marsh and Stoker pp. 114-135.
- Margaret L. Andersen. 2006. **Thinking About Women: Sociological Perspectives on Sex and Gender**. New York: NY. Pearson. Chapter 11, pp. 315-347.

Suggested Readings:

- Mary Hawkesworth. 1989. "Knowers, Knowing, Known: Feminist Theory and Claims of Truth". *Signs*. 14(3) pp. 533-557. (Via Electronic Data Base)
- Renzetti Claire M. and Daniel J. Curran. 2012. **Women, Men, and Society**. (6th Ed.) Chapter 10: Gender, Politics, Government, and the Military. Pp. 297-327.

5. **Week 12 and 13**

Marxist and Neo-Marxist Approaches

Required Readings:

- Diarmuid Maguire. in Marsh and Stoker pp. 136-155.
- Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels. 1848. **The Communist Manifesto**. New York: Signet Classic. (335.422 MAR)
- Robert C. Tucker (ed.). 1972. **The Marx-Engels Reader**. (2nd ed.) New York: W. W. Norton and Company. pp. 133-135. (Xerox and Scan)